

Dear Commissioners,

I felt it my duty to make a quick comment about Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. I am strongly in support of retaining all the FCC rules in question. These rules are; The Television-Radio Cross-Ownership Rule, The Broadcast-Newspaper Cross Ownership Ban, The National Television Ownership Rule, The Duopoly Rule for Radio, The Local Television Ownership Rule, and The Dual Network Rule.

I produce a television show for a small independent here in St.Louis, and I see firsthand every day how media monopolies poison the ability of broadcasters to accurately and effectively uphold the principles of our democracy. It is my belief that too much media control by one entity threatens the very foundation of our personal sovereignty, as well as the sovereignty of our public institutions, including our government. I can say for certain that the show that I do would never make it on the air under the auspices of a corporate megalith like FOX, or Viacom, and yet I feel that what I do is vital and important. I think that I'm doing a show that needs to be done. And I don't think that it will be possible if the giant media companies are allowed to continue their no-holds barred grab of the outlets of production. But more than that, a functioning democracy needs to have a healthy media, which means a diverse and varied informational flow. To allow single entities more direct control over the message, the threat of homogenization (at best) is very real. That, I'm afraid, would serve to choke our democracy and render it less effective. And less trustworthy.

I believe that most Americans feel the FCC's rules about these matters are prudent, necessary, and in the public interest, and I urge you on behalf of myself and my fellow citizens to maintain and strengthen them.

Thank you,

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